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Take Your Place is the programme which is being run by neaco in schools and colleges in East Anglia. Information about how your personal information will be used by us in connection with the administration of the Take Your Place programme, and for related purposes, is available at <https://www.takeyourplace.ac.uk/how-we-use-participant-data>.

We will also get in touch by email to facilitate your involvement in the Take Your Place programme. Please contact [info@takeyourplace.ac.uk](mailto:info@takeyourplace.ac.uk) if you have any questions about how we use your data.

Explore your options,  
Discover your potential

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Explore your options,  
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Preparing for a Film Studies  
Application

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# How can we help?

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- This PowerPoint is here to provide you with different ideas to help and support you with writing a Personal Statement for a film studies course, plus the application process.
- We have put together reading lists, preparation ideas and top tips for the application process for a film studies course at either a University or film school

# Where do I start?!

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- Let's start with some reading. We recommend using this time to do some further reading on your chosen subject, as it is important that your personal statement contains an academic paragraph.



# An Academic Paragraph

Having an academic paragraph in your personal statement is really important and we suggest using the following reading lists to help. You can use this paragraph to analyse a small piece of text from a relevant book/journal, article or performance.



# Reading Suggestions

## Cinema

- The Story Of Film - Mark Cousins
- Hitchcock – Francois Truffaut
- What Is Cinema? – Andre Bazin
- Closely Watched Films – Marilyn Fabe
- Ways Of Seeing – John Berger
- Film – The Essential Study Guide – D. Shaw, R. Doughty
- Film History: An Introduction (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition) – K. Thompson, D. Bordwell
- Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting – Syd Field

# Film Suggestions

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## German Expressionism, Soviet Montage, Italian Neorealism, World Classics

Nosferatu (1922) – F.W. Murnau  
Metropolis (1927) – Fritz Lang  
M (1931) – Fritz Lang  
Battleship Potemkin (1925) – Sergei Eisenstein  
Rome Open City (1945) – Roberto Rossellini  
Bicycle Thieves (1948) – Vittorio De Sica  
Rashomon (1950) – Akira Kurosawa  
Tokyo Story (1953) – Yasujiro Ozu  
The Seventh Seal (1957) – Ingmar Bergman  
Red Desert (1964) – Michelangelo Antonioni



# Film Suggestions

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## French New Wave, British Kitchen Sink, New German, Psychoanalysis

Breathless (1960) – Jean-Luc Goddard

Paris Nous Appartient (1961) – Jacques Rivette

This Sporting Life (1963) – Lindsay Anderson

Billy Liar (1963) – John Schlesinger

Kings Of The Road (1976) – Wim Wenders

Stroszek (1977) – Werner Herzog

Un Chien Andalou (1929) – Luis Brunel & Salvador Dali

Peeping Tom (1960) – Michael Powell

Dead Ringers (1988) – David Cronenberg





# Film Suggestions

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## All Time Classics

Citizen Kane (1941) – Orson Welles

The Godfather (1972) – Francis Ford Coppola

Taxi Driver (1976) – Martin Scorsese

Seven Samurai (1954) – Akira Kurosawa

8<sup>1/2</sup> (1963) – Federico Fellini

One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest (1975) – Milos Forman

Goodfellas (1990) – Martin Scorsese

Raging Bull (1980) – Martin Scorsese

Apocalypse Now (1979) – Francis Ford Coppola

Blade Runner (1982) – Ridley Scott



# Film Suggestions

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## All Time Classics

2001: A Space Odyssey (1968) – Stanley Kubrick

Vertigo (1958) – Alfred Hitchcock

Rear Window (1954) – Alfred Hitchcock

Casablanca (1942) – Michael Curtiz

Pulp Fiction (1994) – Quentin Tarantino

The Shining (1980) – Stanley Kubrick

Gone With The Wind (1939) – Victor Fleming

12 Angry Men (1957) – Sidney Lumet

Memento (2000) – Christopher Nolan

Jaws (1975) – Steven Spielberg



# Film Studies is versatile

- There are hundreds of different film studies courses, many of which you can combine with other subjects. The choice is huge!

[Film Studies BA \(Hons\) – ARU](#)

[Film Studies & Journalism BA \(Joint Hons\) – De Montfort University](#)

[History & Film Studies BA – University of East Anglia](#)

[Film Studies & English BA – University of Leicester](#)

[Film & Television Studies BA – University of Lincoln](#)

[Film Studies with Philosophy BA \(Hons\) – University of Liverpool](#)

Below is a list of useful websites for the student of film studies:

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<https://www.filmsite.org/>

<https://www.bfi.org.uk/>

<https://www.afi.com/>

<https://www.imdb.com/>

<https://www.500daysoffilm.com/bestmoviepodcasts/>

Radio 4 hosts The Film Programme every Thursday at 16:00 and Sunday at 23:00. This programme explores new releases, classic films and reviews.



# Top Tips!

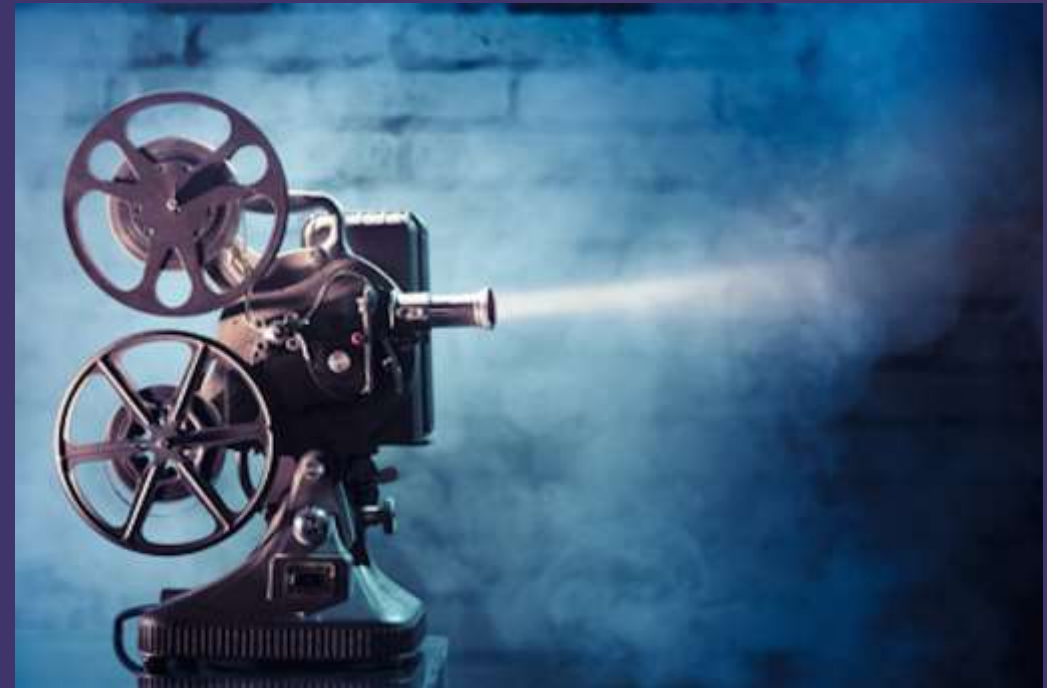
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- **Research Before Applying:** Find out what the entry requirements are to avoid disappointment when applying. Look at required reading and any advice about what your chosen university are looking for in candidates.
- **Don't Attend Just One Open Day :** Keep your options open and attend a few different university open days to gain insight into which is the one for you.
- **Watch films:** It sounds obvious, but this is a good idea when applying for a film course. Find films that are known for their style, script or just general greatness and watch them with a critical eye. Think about the camera work, acting style, lighting and staging. These are all things you will be studying on your course.
- **Speak to a Student:** Researching your course is fundamental but so is talking to someone that has real experience of taking the course. Ask about the workload, how they found the teaching and what opportunities the course provided for career paths. You can't beat firsthand experience.

# BA Film Studies videos of interest...

Anglia Ruskin Film  
Studies shorts 2018:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RG4AKJ42FHs>

King's College London:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6DTHT0zKnks>



# Student testimonials...

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Charlotte Mercer, Film and Media Studies at Anglia Ruskin University

*“Hi, I’m Charlotte and I’m from Essex. I took A ‘levels at my school in Media, Health and Social Care, and Travel and Tourism.*

*I’m currently studying for a degree in Film and Media Studies at ARU.*

*If I was a year 12 student right now, I would tell myself to stay calm and not stress too much as my health is very important during a time like this.*

*Then I would ensure that I was keeping in touch with teachers from my school via email just in case I needed advice about university, but I would also speak to my parents as I know they would be able to reassure me.*

*Lastly, I would make sure to join the university group chats or accommodation group chats so I could get to know fellow students who are going through the same situation as I know this would comfort me and put me at ease. It’s also a great way to meet friends before university has even begun.”*

# My HE+

Thinking about applying to University and looking for ways to explore your subject beyond the curriculum? Then this website is for you. Each topic is produced by Cambridge postgraduate students and academics at the cutting edge of research in their field. The topics provide guided activities, questions to think about and suggestions for further reading.



The main subject pages also give you a quick guide to what it would be like to study the subject at university level and suggest some further resources to check out.

<https://www.myheplus.com/>